

## CLAIMS

1. A remote computing system comprising:  
a first computer; and  
5 at least one second computer coupled thereto via a communications link;  
said first computer being programmed to transmit, to said second computer  
via said link, data defining a computing team for performing a computing task;  
said team comprising a first program and at least one second program  
different to said first and for execution on the same computer and in parallel  
10 therewith; and said second computer being programmed to receive said data and  
to execute, in parallel, said first and said at least one second program;  
in which the or each said second program comprises code for performing at  
least a part of said task, and for communicating with said first program; and said  
first program is a co-ordinating program comprising code for communicating with  
15 said first computer, and for communicating with and co-ordinating each said  
second program.
2. A system according to claim 1, in which said first program comprises code  
for transmitting said first program to another said computer, in response to a  
20 predetermined criterion.
3. A system according to claim 2, in which said first program is arranged to  
determine one of a plurality of said computers to move to.
- 25 4. A system according to claim 3, in which said first program is arranged to  
store a sequence defining an order of preference of said computers to move to.
5. A system according to <sup>Claim 1</sup> ~~any preceding claim~~, in which said first program  
comprises monitoring code for monitoring the status of said second computer.  
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6. A system according to claim 5 when appended to claim 2, in which said  
predetermined criterion comprises a reduction in computing capacity of said  
second computer.

7. A system according to claim 5, in which said first program is arranged to control the or each said second program in dependence upon said monitoring.
- 5 8. A system according to claim 7, in which the first program is arranged to control the number of said second programs in dependence upon said monitoring.
9. A system according to <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~any preceding claim~~, in which said second program comprises code for transmitting said first program to another said computer, in response to a move instruction from said first program, and said first program is arranged to transmit a said move instruction.
- 10 10. A system according to claim 9 when appended to claim 2, in which said first program is arranged to transmit a said move instruction in response to said monitoring.
- 15 11. A system according to <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~any preceding claim~~, in which the first program is arranged to be capable of removing the or each said second program from the second computer and to terminate execution thereof.
- 20 12. A system according to claim 11, in which the second programs each comprise code for causing the second computer to remove and terminate themselves, and are arranged to do so in the absence of a signal from the first program under predetermined conditions.
- 25 13. A system according to <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~any preceding claim~~, in which the first computer is programmed to access plural said second computers; to determine, for each, whether it will support said computing team and, where a second computer will not support a said team, to transmit thereto, and cause to execute thereon, a support program to adapt said second computer to support said teams.
- 30 14. A system according to <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~any preceding claim~~, in which the first computer is programmed to transmit, to a plurality of said second computers via said link, data

defining a monitoring program comprising monitoring code for monitoring a respective said second computer, and code for communicating with said first computer; and said first computer is arranged to receive status data from the or each said monitoring program and to control the operation of said the or each said  
5 team in dependence thereon.

15. A system according to claim 14 when appended to claim 3 or claim 4, in which the first computer is arranged to signal computer selection data to a said first program in dependence upon said monitoring data.

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16. A system according to claim 3 ~~or claim 14~~, in which said monitoring code is for monitoring the memory of said second computer.

17. A system according to claim 3 ~~or claim 14~~, in which said monitoring code is  
15 for monitoring the utilisation of the processor of said second computer.

18. A system according to claim 3 ~~or claim 14~~, in which said monitoring code is for monitoring the storage capacity of said second computer.

20 19. A system according to claim 3 ~~or claim 14~~, in which said monitoring code is for monitoring use of an input device of said second computer.

20. A system according to claim 3 ~~or claim 14~~, in which said monitoring code is for monitoring a battery of said second computer.

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21. A remote computing system comprising:  
a first computer; and  
at least one second computer coupled thereto via a communications link;  
said first computer being programmed to transmit, to said second computer  
30 via said link, mobile program data defining a mobile program for performing a computing task for execution on said second computer and comprising code for performing at least a part of said task, and for communicating with said first computer;

in which the first computer is arranged to determine whether a said second computer can support execution of a said mobile program and, if not, is arranged to transmit, to said second computer via said link, and to cause execution thereon, of data defining a mobile program support environment to enable said second  
5 computer to receive said mobile program data and to execute said mobile program.

22. A system according to claim 21, in which said first computer is arranged to be capable of causing said second computer to remove said mobile program support environment.

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23. A remote computing system comprising:

a first computer; and

at least one second computer coupled thereto via a communications link;

said first computer being programmed to transmit, to said second computer

15 via said link, mobile program data defining a mobile program for performing a computing task for execution on said second computer and comprising code for performing at least a part of said task, and for communicating with said first computer;

20 in which the first computer is arranged to generate a graphical display showing the or each said second computer, and the or each said mobile program resident thereon.

24. A system according to claim 23, in which the graphical display indicates the geographical positions of said second computers.

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25. A system according to claim 23, in which the graphical display indicates the computing capabilities of said second computers.

26. A system according to claim 23, in which the graphical display indicates the  
30 delay in communicating with said second computers from said first.

27. A system according to claim 23, in which said first computer is arranged to cause a display on the or each said second computer indicating the presence of

said mobile program thereon.

28. A first computer adapted to operate in the system of any preceding claim.

- 5 29. A method of remote computing comprising supplying a plurality of parallel processing task programs from a first computer to at least one second computer; supplying a co-ordinating program from said first computer to said second computer; and co-ordinating operation of the task programs through the co-ordinating program.

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